

*A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends. -- James Monroe*

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## Rising Prices Spur New Labor Demands

**Coal Miners Seek Wage Adjustments to Offset the Increased Living Costs**

### LABOR DISCONTENT SPREADS

**War Labor Board Points Out That Increased Wages Would Merely Boost Prices Higher**

Despite efforts of high government officials, including President Roosevelt, the threat of a strike in the bituminous coal industry still hangs over the nation. The United Mine Workers of America, the labor union representing these miners which is headed by John L. Lewis, is demanding a \$2 a day increase in wages. The northern branch of the union has reached a temporary solution by agreeing not to go on strike for 30 days, but the southern branch has reached no such agreement with the mine operators. Until this dispute is settled, the nation will be uneasy, for a general strike in the bituminous coal industry would do great damage to the war program.

Meanwhile, John L. Lewis last week testified before the Truman Committee of the Senate on behalf of the miners of his powerful union. He pointed to the great increase in the cost of living to the miners and dramatically demanded that the wage increases be granted. He implied that the miners were "not necessarily bound" by the agreement which he and other labor leaders signed in December, 1941, shortly after Pearl Harbor, not to go on strike.

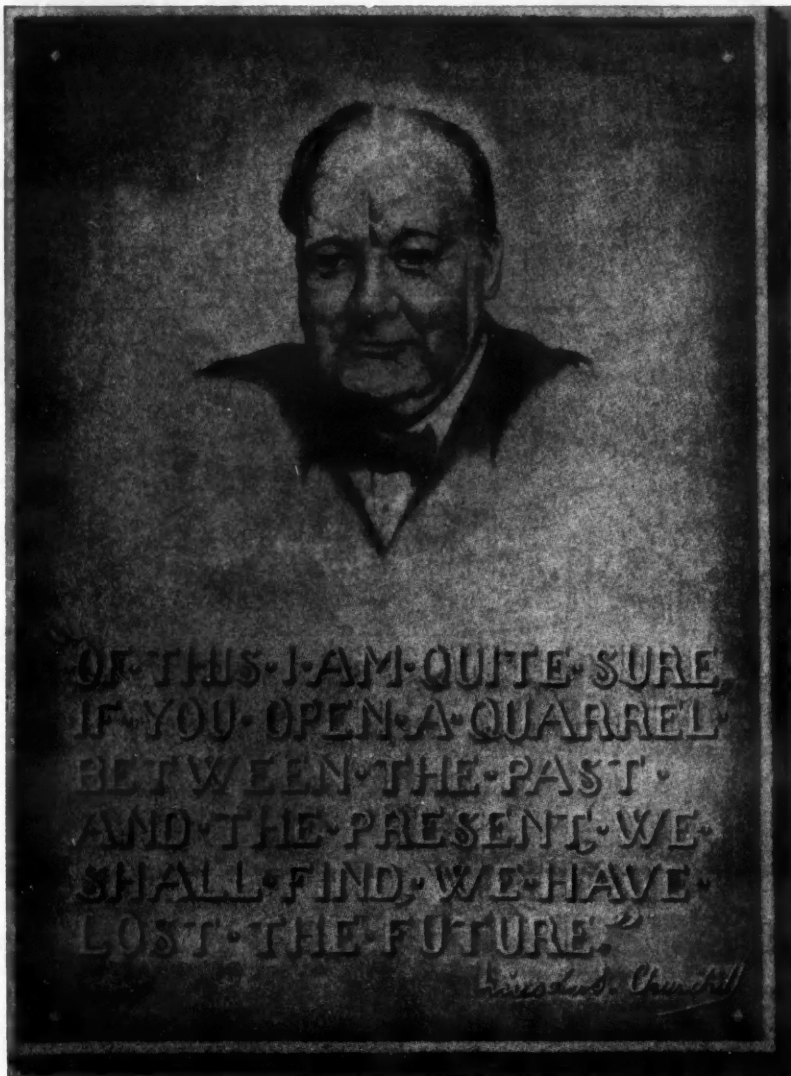
### War Labor Board

The no-strike agreement was regarded as essential to industrial peace and to the prosecution of the war. As part of the program, a national war labor board was proposed to handle all labor disputes which might arise during the war. A few weeks later this board was set up. It consists of 12 men. Four of them represent employers, four represent labor, and four, including the chairman, William H. Davis, represent the public. It is the duty of this board to deal with all disputes which are not settled in some other way. Up to the first of last month, 2,700 cases had been submitted to the board; 739 of them had been settled; 400 were referred to regional boards, and other cases were still pending.

This is the board which has been considering the recent disputes. It has the job of preventing a strike in the soft coal fields, and a few days ago it handed down an important decision setting forth the government's policy regarding wage increases. The board is at the center of the controversy over wages which is disturbing industrial relations throughout the country.

Many of the disputes which recently have gone to the board for

(Concluded on page 6)



FROM A DRAWING BY EDWARD WARREN IN C. S. MONITOR  
Winston Churchill

## On Changing Your Mind

By Walter E. Myer

It would be a good thing if each individual were to keep a diary in which he jotted down, not only outward events, but thoughts, stressing those ideas which, from day to day, seemed most interesting, important, or significant. Occasionally, then, the diarist might look back over his record to see how consistent he had been. In most cases he will probably find a surprising degree of inconsistency. Opinions held at one time will be reversed a little later. These changes may come so slowly that he is not conscious of them. He does not know how often he changes his mind unless there is some means of confronting him with a record. He assumes a greater degree of continuity and consistency in his thinking than really exists.

This changing of the mind is, of course, a wholesome thing. Change is an essential element of progress. If one holds the same views today that he held a year ago, he has not grown. He is standing still. The discovery of a shifting of opinions with the passage of time is an encouraging symptom. It indicates progressive thinking rather than stagnation. There is, after all, no peculiar sanctity about opinions formed at the age of twelve or fourteen or sixteen. Why, then, should these opinions stand in preference of those which might be formed at twenty? And why should one not have as much confidence in facts acquired at fifty as at twenty or thirty? One has reached a sorry state when he assumes, even subconsciously, that his powers of fact finding and analysis are less acute than they once were. We all need to be bound less by the assumptions we chanced to form yesterday. We need a greater confidence in the facts and ideas of today and a greater faith in the possibility of tomorrow's discoveries. "A foolish consistency," says Emerson, "is the hobgoblin of little minds." Let us not, then, fear to welcome new facts because they oblige us to discard the data which we gathered last year. Let us embrace new ideas if they seem sound to us today, even though they run counter to the thoughts we may have expressed a week ago.

The rapidity of change in our thinking will depend in part upon our age. When we are young and our accumulated experience is slight, new data may be expected to exert a considerable influence upon our thinking. As we grow older and are in possession of a larger body of fact, new data will affect the total of our thinking less. If an old man changes his ideas very rapidly, it may indicate a previous failure to systematize his material and organize his mental possessions. If a young man changes too slowly, it indicates arrested development and intellectual stagnation.

## Churchill's Peace Proposal Discussed

**His "Council of Europe" Plan Stirs Intensified Interest in Postwar Era**

### LEAVES DETAILS TO FUTURE

**But Agrees that Planning on a Broad Scale for Peace Should Go on Throughout the Conflict**

Since Prime Minister Churchill made his world-wide radio broadcast a week ago Sunday, widespread discussion has been undertaken in this country and abroad over his proposals for postwar world organization. While the Prime Minister failed to present a detailed blueprint of how the world should be organized after the war, he did give broad outlines of the future. What made his address memorable is the fact that it was the first statement of such a specific nature yet made by any important leader of the United Nations. Heretofore, the main guideposts to the postwar world have been the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms, both of which outline broad principles but fail to mention concrete measures to carry them out or a definite organization to supervise them.

### Reactions from Address

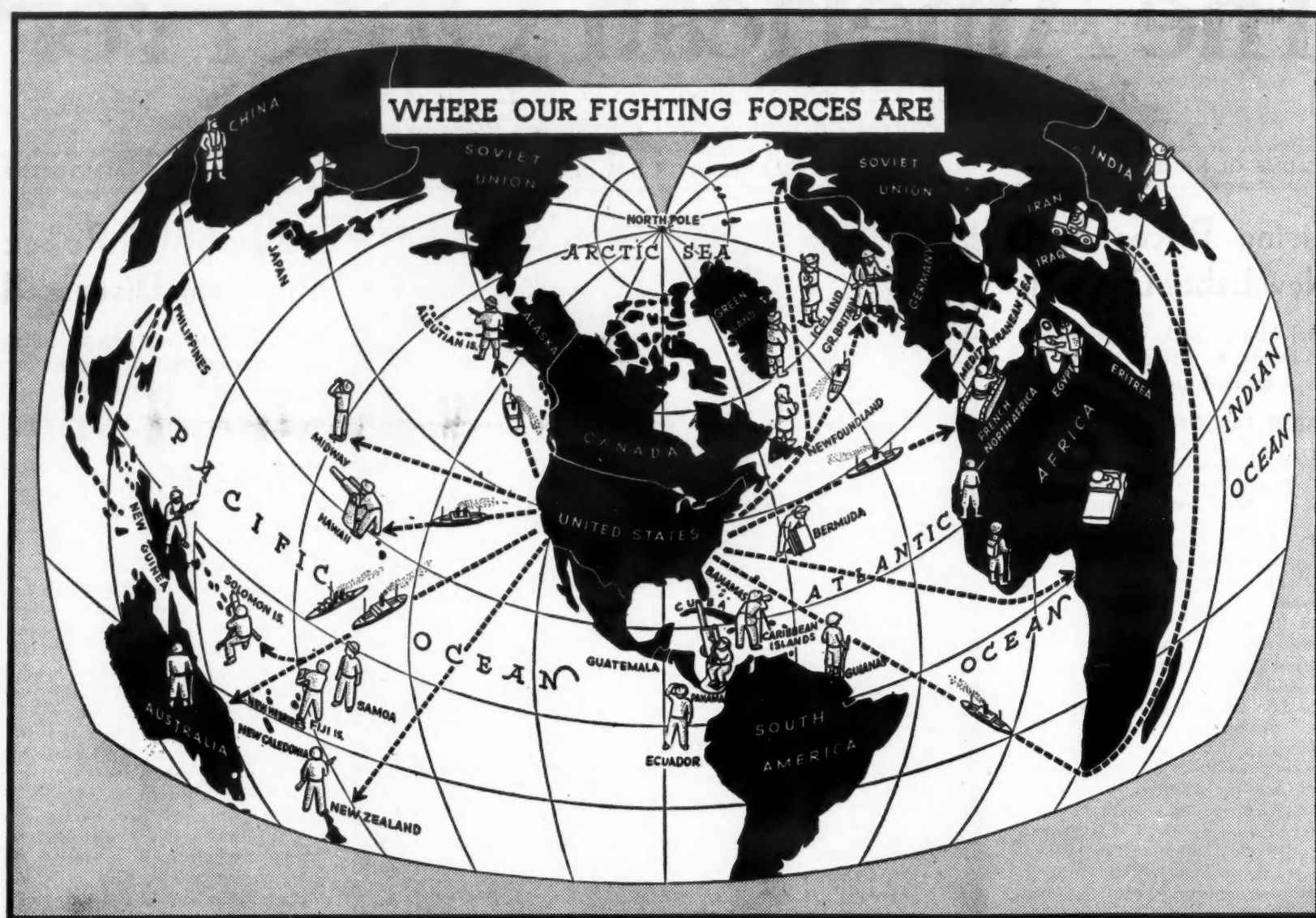
Following closely on Mr. Churchill's speech was a meeting held in New York City last week by the Pan-European Conference in which a number of leading political and intellectual leaders took part. The purpose of this conference was to discuss ways and means of bringing about after the war union among the nations of Europe, or at least the organization of a number of federations or regional groupings. This is in accordance with the broad outlines of Prime Minister Churchill's proposals.

At the same time, representatives of the governments-in-exile in Europe took heart at Mr. Churchill's proposals and began to lay plans for the postwar world. A number of steps had been taken previously by these governments-in-exile, for they have realized that the arrangements which existed before 1939 were highly unsatisfactory and might lead to future wars if steps are not taken to improve them. Thus, there are a number of movements afoot all designed to lay the groundwork for a postwar world organized to preserve the peace.

What, exactly, did Mr. Churchill have in mind when he spoke of the postwar world? He was careful to avoid discussion of such intricate and controversial subjects as territorial boundaries which should be drawn after the war. He realized that many of the problems cannot be met at this time, but he did outline a scheme whereby the machinery may be established to preserve peace.

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COURTESY FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION

## America Celebrates Army Day

**T**OMORROW, April 6, we celebrate Army Day. This year the occasion will not be marked by colorful displays of the armed forces of the United States, as in years past, but the nation will salute with pride the men who have taken up arms in defense of their country. The number of these men who are now under arms cannot help but impress us this Army Day. From a standing force of about a quarter of a million in 1940 when selective service first began, the Army has grown to a force estimated at 6,000,000, and it is rapidly approaching the goal of 8,200,000 set for the end of this year. Of this vast number, probably 20 per cent, or well over a million, are already overseas, guarding far-flung outposts that now tightly circle the world, on every continent, and in every climate.

What kind of Army is this we have? What are the men doing and thinking as they carry the fight for freedom thousands of miles from home? It is possible for us to know these things, for a special division of the Army sends out questionnaires and gathers statistics regularly about the men.

It has discovered, for example, that the American soldier is exceptionally well educated. In our new Army, 14 per cent of the men went to college; 39 per cent were graduated from high school; another 28 per cent went part way through high school. This is in striking contrast to World War I, when 80 per cent of the men had only a grade school education.

American soldiers are still interested in furthering their education. From the Armed Services Institute at

Madison, Wisconsin, the men may take correspondence courses for a small fee in any of 700 different subjects, ranging from accounting and trigonometry to aviation and welding. Each week 1,500 men, half of them overseas, are enrolling for credit in such courses.

Spare-time activities vary widely, just as they do in civilian life. More than half of the men attend church regularly. Fifty-nine per cent of them write letters; 42 per cent listen to the radio; 41 per cent read magazines; 31 per cent go to the movies; 13 per cent engage in outdoor sports; 10 per cent read books; two per cent work with hobbies. Movies are by far the favorite entertainment of American soldiers, and most of the men like to sing while marching and while gathered together in the evenings.

Especially while overseas, the men are hungry for both news and entertainment. There are now about 900 camp newspapers at home and in the field. The men are provided with weekly newsmaps showing the progress of the war. A special 2,000-word cable report is sent each day to far-away places to keep the men and officers informed. For entertainment, numerous special programs featuring the best radio and movie talent in America are beamed directly to the men, and the best of the commercial programs in this country are stripped of their advertising and rebroadcast by short wave. Recordings, books, games, and many current movies are sent to our troops.

The Army is, of course, interested in knowing what the men think of their food and their clothing. If too

many men seem dissatisfied, then the officials can make the changes necessary to keep up morale.

In the case of food, most of the men seem well pleased. The questionnaires show that 78 per cent of the men think the Army buys good food; 72 per cent think it is well prepared; 90 per cent find that it is served fresh and hot; 85 per cent get as much as they want for breakfast, 93 per cent for dinner, and 89 per cent for supper.

In the case of clothing, however, the story has not been quite the same. A number of months ago a study was made of the reactions of soldiers to their uniforms. About three-fourths of the men said their blouses fit, and 87 per cent said their shoes fit. But one out of three men reported that his shirt and trousers did not fit, and well over half of the men felt that they needed more clothing. In fact, many of the men were having their clothes altered at their own expense. On the basis of this information, the Quartermaster made such changes as were necessary to keep the men satisfied.

Soldiers abroad are just as keenly concerned about postwar problems as those of us who are at home. Many of the questionnaires indicate that one of the biggest worries is about a serious depression following the war. Soldiers are disappointed when they hear about strikes, absenteeism, and employer-labor disputes which slow up war production; so are they displeased when they learn about the internal squabbling in our government; they wonder why people do not realize that a war is on and that it must be won by united action.

Perhaps most important of all, our soldiers are learning a great deal about the rest of the world and are cementing bonds of friendship between the United States and its neighbors around the globe. In the past we often have not been concerned about these countries. Because our own country is large and rich, and because it has been "isolated" by two oceans, we have been proud and often arrogant. We have boasted of our material things—the largest of this, the most of that, the greatest of something else. We often failed to realize that other people, too, have achievements.

Now, for the first time in our history, great numbers of Americans of every social and economic class are seeing the rest of the world first hand. These boys are seeing that many of the things they took for granted are merely prejudices. They are learning that people everywhere are much the same; when treated with respect and dignity, they are decent, kindly people just like the folks back home. They all want bread and freedom, they all love their country, they all are ready to fight for a better life.

Reports show that our boys are getting a respect for human beings no matter what their dress is or what they eat or what language they speak or what religion they practice. In turn, in many parts of the world they are creating a respect for Americans among people who have never understood us before. It is to be hoped that the boys bring this sense of brotherhood home to us, for it is on such a basis that a better world in the future must be built.



# Test Your Personality

General Test to Determine the Various Elements of Character and Personality of Individual Students

ONE who is seriously seeking to achieve personal happiness, good citizenship, and vocational success should be able to analyze himself and determine whether his characteristics and habits are such as to take him in the direction he wants to go. He should make out a list of questions which will call attention to his specific habits and characteristics

a few weeks later. Without looking at your first scores, you may then grade yourself again, and compare the results. See whether you are making improvement in any particular. If you are making improvement, you are on the road to the possession of a sound education and you are acquiring qualities which will make for success.

It would be a mistake to become self-analytical to the point of being morbid. Do not look inward upon your mind, your character, or your habits too much or too frequently. Your attention should only occasionally be directed to yourself. Generally it should be turned toward the larger things outside. But a little time given now and then to a systematic appraisal of



Do you feel a sense of sympathy for other people?

and should answer these questions, for his own benefit, honestly and candidly. Each reader may well devise questions for himself, but by way of suggestion, we are submitting a list.

You may find it profitable to grade yourself on each of these questions. If you feel that you possess to a very complete degree a quality about which the question is asked, you may give yourself a grade of 10. If you feel that you do not possess it at all, give yourself a grade of zero. You may mark yourself all the way from zero to 10, depending upon the degree to which you possess the quality in question.

For example, when you come to question No. 14, asking whether you have found a way to overcome or reduce worry, you should think carefully about your answer. If, as a matter of fact, you are able to throw off small troubles and irritations so that you are practically free from worry, you may mark yourself 10. If, on the other hand, you are beset every day by worries which you cannot throw off, you may grade yourself



Do you spend a great deal of your time in reading?

successful, he should be adding to the number of his good marks week by week, month by month, and year by year.

1. Do you read a daily newspaper regularly?
2. Do you read one or more magazines?
3. Is your reading sufficiently varied so that you are familiar with different points of view?

4. Do you read at least one book on public problems during each year?
5. Do you spend some time each week in conversation devoted to public problems?
6. Do you try conscientiously to understand the arguments of political parties other than the one to which you belong?
7. Do you spend on the average 10 hours a week in reading, thought, or discussion relating to public problems?
8. Do you feel a deep desire to contribute to good government and the improvement of social conditions?

9. Are you better informed on any one problem than anyone else in your school or community?
10. Have you studied the rules of diet, so that you feel that you eat wisely, even though certain shortages now exist?
11. Do you know a great deal about



ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS PHOTO

Are you alive to the problems of your community?

the common diseases, so that you may avoid them or detect them in their early stages?

12. Do you exercise regularly and with enjoyment?
13. Do you avoid intoxicating liquor at all times?
14. Have you found a way to overcome or reduce worry?
15. Do you know how to escape boredom?
16. Are you self-critical without being morbid?
17. Can you size yourself up so as to avoid an undue feeling of inferiority or superiority?
18. Do you dress neatly?
19. Do you have a pleasing voice?
20. Do you have a large enough vocabulary so that, without resorting to slang, you find yourself able to express ideas and feelings with clearness, definiteness, and precision?
21. Do you enunciate clearly?
22. Are you always courteous and friendly?
23. Are you a good conversationalist, able to listen as well as talk well?
24. Do you make friends easily and keep them?
25. Can you argue constructively, avoiding heat, irritation, and aggressiveness?
26. Can you be interesting in conversation without trying to be funny all the time?
27. Do you respect other people's time?
28. Are you well acquainted with the rules of social usage or of good form, and do you always abide by these rules?

29. Are you tactful?
30. Are you loyal to your friends?
31. Are you free from jealousy?
32. Do you frequently do reading which is hard enough to call forth your best intellectual powers?
33. Are you honest at all times, in that you absolutely respect the property rights of others?
34. Do you always tell the truth? When you say that you will be at a certain place at a certain time, are you always there? Do you always do what you promise to do?
35. Do you contribute much to the pleasure, the satisfaction, and enjoyment of your relatives?
36. Do you spend a great deal of time in reading which you enjoy and which you find informative and inspirational?
37. Are you really courteous, friendly, and tolerant toward one of whose views you disapprove?
38. Do you like music or other arts?
39. Have you a hobby which is really interesting?
40. Do you budget your time so as to see to it that you do a fair day's work?
41. Are you giving thought to the choice of a vocation, and are you preparing yourself for efficiency in it?
42. Do you know enough about your needs and the quality of the things you buy so that you can say that you spend money wisely?
43. Are you cooperating as much as possible in the war effort?
44. Are you a leader in any field, either at school or in your community?
45. Do you do more work than you are required to do on any one subject?

## SMILES

Prosecutor—"Then you admit you struck the plaintiff with malice aforethought?"

Defendant—"You can't hang that on me. I've told you twice I hit him with a brick."

—SELECTED

Boss: "So you're the new office boy? Did the cashier tell you what to do afternoons?"

Boy: "Yes, sir. He said the most important thing was to wake him up when I saw you coming."

—CAPPER'S WEEKLY

"Now why did you throw that Jersey heifer off the cliff?"

"I'm a jitterbug; I wanted to see the Jersey Bounce."

—SCRIPPAGE

First Reporter: "Do you hyphenate headache?"

Second Reporter: "Not unless it's a splitting headache."

—EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

"What dirty hands you have, Jimmy," said the teacher. "What would you say if I came to school without washing my hands?"

"I wouldn't say anything," replied Jimmy. "I'd be too polite."

—LABOR

Diner: "Two eggs, please. Don't fry them a second after the white is cooked. Don't turn them over. Just a small pinch of salt on each. No pepper. Well, what are you waiting for?"

Waitress: "The hen that lays these eggs is named Betty. Is that all right, sir?"

CAPPER'S WEEKLY

Remember when the fellow at the front door was trying to sell an ice box instead of buy it back?

—SELECTED

If you walk you wear out leather; if you ride you use up needed rubber; if you sit down, McNutt wants to know why you aren't in the shipyard.

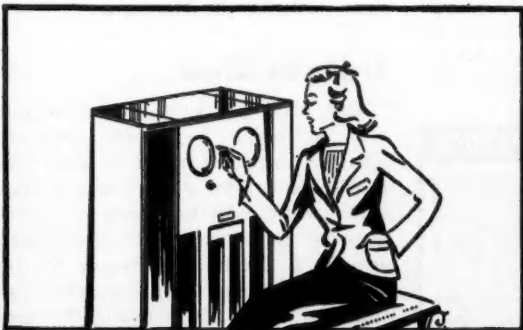
—DETROIT NEWS

Secretary: "There's a man outside with a bill for you, but he wouldn't give me his name."

Boss: "What did he look like?"

Secretary: "Well, he looked like you'd better pay up."

—SELECTED



Do you like music and the other arts?

zero. If you are fairly successful in avoiding worry, you may mark yourself somewhere between zero and 10 in conformity with the degree of success you have been able to achieve.

For best results it would be well to put the chart away after you have graded yourself and then take it out



"Whadda ya know! My Eversharp pen, guaranteed forever!"



# The Story of the Week



"INVADE EUROPE" is the demand which was voiced at this huge mass meeting held in Trafalgar Square, London. Resolutions were passed in favor of a second front.

## The Tunisian Front

News from the Tunisian front was as encouraging to the Allied cause as it had been at any time since the battle in North Africa was joined. General Montgomery's Eighth Army, after 10 days of constant battering, finally succeeded in piercing the Mareth Line and, as we go to press, is entering the city of Gabes on the coast. One column of Montgomery's army had succeeded in flanking the Mareth Line from the south and was thus in a position to threaten the rear of Marshal Rommel's forces at the Mareth Line. Rommel now seems to have abandoned his positions in the extreme south and is retreating toward northern Tunisia.

The other sectors of the Tunisian front were equally active last week. American forces, driving eastward from Gafsa, were pushing toward the coast in the attempt to block the coastal route over which Rommel must pass to join hands with van Arnim's forces in the north. Other American forces, farther north, last week took the town of Maknassy and entered the wide plain which leads to the coast. And in the extreme north, the British First Army, under General Anderson, was on the move in an attempt to storm the key fortresses of Tunis and Bizerte.

This renewed Allied offensive on all fronts seems to indicate that military leaders are anxious to end the Tunisian campaign as rapidly as possible in order to clear the way for further offensives against the continent of Europe itself. Until Tunisia is completely in the hands of the United Nations, the Allied position is greatly weakened because hundreds of thousands of tons of shipping are tied up in making the longer voyage to the Russian front. The opening of the Mediterranean would be an advantage of inestimable value to the Allied cause.

## Stalemate in Russia

Although the Russians have been advancing steadily toward the key city of Smolensk on the central Russian front, the Germans have been holding their ground in the south. It was in the south that the Russians threatened to drive the Germans far

back following the Battle of Stalingrad and the capture of Rostov and Kharkov. It seemed for a time that Germany was headed for disaster.

But now something of a stalemate seems to have been reached. Two big questions now demand the attention of military observers—Has the Russian offensive spent itself? Are the Germans strong enough to launch a new spring or summer offensive in Russia? It would be a mistake to give a definite answer to either of these questions at this time because the real answers will be known only as the military leaders of both countries reveal their future strategy by concrete action.

## Rations Here and Abroad

The new meat rations which went into effect last week seemed Spartan to many Americans, but in comparison with the other warring nations, we are still eating luxuriously. Present point values allow the American consumer 32 ounces of meat per week and 16 ounces of butter. The nearest approach to this is in Russia, where only 18 ounces of meat and seven ounces of butter must satisfy wartime appetites. Britain gets exactly half as much as we do—16 ounces of meat and eight of butter—and Germany still less with 12½ ounces of meat and seven and one-quarter ounces of butter.

Because the British and Russians are traditional tea-drinkers, there is no coffee rationing in their countries. Tea rations in England, however, allow just two ounces per week, as compared with our three and one-fifth of coffee. Hitler's Germans get three and one-half ounces of coffee every week, but it's ersatz. The real product is almost completely unobtainable.

On sugar, the Soviets fare best. Their 15 ounces per week is nearly double what we are allowed. Like us, both the British and the Germans receive eight ounces of sugar a week. Although the occupied countries keep up a

pretense of rationing, what food supplies are not exported directly to Germany go to feed the armies of occupation. Actual food intake of the general populations is far below the normal subsistence level.

## Taxpayers' War Plants

In the current issue of *Common Sense*, Stuart Chase calls attention to an unusual but important problem that will face this nation after the war. It is the question of what shall be done with the vast network of war plants which the government has built and paid for, and which are now leased or rented to private managers.

One government agency alone—the Defense Plant Corporation—is financing the construction and expansion of 1,334 plants for the production of ships, planes, guns, metals, rubber, gasoline, and so on. Over 800 of these plants are already in operation. The investment of the U. S. taxpayer in these factories amounts to well over eight billion dollars!

This gigantic network of factories is as large as eight U. S. Steel Corporations put together. Its value is as great as one-fifth of all the industrial property in the whole country in 1940. "This property, now owned by the taxpayers, is hardly to be kicked around as small change."

Mr. Chase warns that there will be great pressure brought to bear in Congress to turn over these properties to private industry at ridiculously low purchase prices after the war. He points out that after the last war Muscle Shoals, around which TVA is now built, was almost sold for two cents on the dollar, and only the intervention of Senator Norris saved it for the American taxpayer.

## Steel Scandal

In the course of its investigation of the war program, the Senate's Truman Committee has unearthed a sordid bit of war production scandal. Grown lax under the pressures of the current boom period, Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation, a subsidiary of U. S. Steel, permitted 28,000 to 36,000 tons of substandard metal to be sent out on war orders.

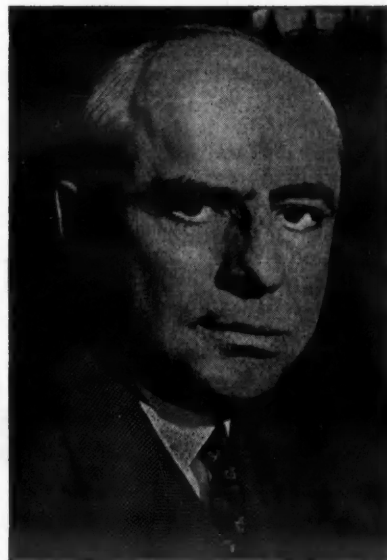
The investigation disclosed that inferior steel had been going to U. S. Navy and Maritime shipyards since last July. When the company's specifications examiners did not know the chemical analysis required for an order, they faked one rather than

take time out for a new analysis. Officials of the United States Steel Corporation disclaimed any knowledge of the fraud and promised that inspections would be stricter on future contracts.

While few such instances have come to light in this war, the end of every previous war has brought a host of unsavory disclosures on the fulfillment of government orders. Congress found sensational evidence of similar malpractice during the First World War.

## New Food Chief

Supreme control of America's food supplies passed out of the hands of Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard last week, as the President appointed Chester C. Davis to head a new food administration within the Department of Agriculture. The order appointing Davis, who is president of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, did not specify how the duties of food management would be



Chester C. Davis

distributed between Wickard and the new official, but it is generally assumed that Wickard has been effectually supplanted.

Davis comes to the new job with a very adequate agriculture background. From 1933 to 1936 he was head of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration program. Before that he had served as editor of a farm magazine, and as state agricultural commissioner for Montana.

## Transport Crisis

One vital link in the chain of our war activities has been seriously strained in recent months. That link is transportation, which faces a towering work load with severe shortages of manpower and equipment. Joseph B. Eastman, director of the Office of Defense Transportation, estimates that 900,000,000 ton-miles of freight must be delivered this year. There is less equipment for the job than there was in 1918, when demands on our transportation facilities were much lighter.

Railroads are faced with the need for hauling nearly half again as much freight as in 1941, when equipment was in better condition. Trucks and buses are barely holding their own on repair parts and rubber. All three

## WEEKLY FOOD RATIONS HERE AND ABROAD

	MEAT	BUTTER & FAT	COFFEE OR TEA	SUGAR
U.S.A.	32 oz.	16 oz.	3 1/4 oz.	8 oz.
BRITAIN	16 oz.	8 oz. ONLY 1 OZ. OF BUTTER	2 oz. COFFEE NOT ALLOWED	8 oz.
U.S.S.R.	18 oz.	7 oz.	COFFEE NOT ALLOWED	15 oz.
GERMANY	12 1/2 oz.	7 1/2 oz.	3 1/2 oz. SUBSTITUTE ONLY	8 oz.

COURTESY N. Y. TIMES



services have found their labor supplies depleted by the draft and a high flow of workers to war plants. The manpower problem is intensified by the fact that many phases of work in transportation are too arduous for women.

The nation's transportation services are meeting their new obligations mainly by rigid conservation and by cutting out frills. Nonesential bus routes have been cut. Luxury railroad cars have been converted for troop transport. Short, frequent freight hauls have been discontinued.

## The Danes Elect

Last week brought strange news out of Denmark, first nation of western Europe to fall before the Nazi juggernaut. In a gesture unprecedented under the New Order, Hitler permitted the Danish people a free parliamentary election. The results proved a great victory for democracy, as 95 per cent of the ballots repudiated the Nazi candidates.

Denmark has been perhaps the best treated of Hitler's victims. Because the Danes are racially related to the Germans, the Nazis have thought to win them over to the New Order instead of merely subjugating them. Thinking the job of conversion was done, they planned to show the world that their philosophy can persuade as well as their tanks and guns.

The response of the Danish people was a glowing tribute to the integrity of the democratic spirit. Fully 15 per cent more people went to the polls than in 1939 when the last election was held. Only five per cent of the votes went to Nazi and collaborationist candidates.

## African Food Problem

It would seem at first glance that Africa, one of the largest and richest continents on the globe, would be a valuable source of food for the Allies, for it is almost completely under the control of the United Nations. However, most of the wealth of this great area is other than agricultural, and ironically enough, Africa is actually a drain on Allied food sources.

The great food staple in Africa, and especially in the lower and central parts of the continent, is corn, known to the natives as "mealies." Because of drouths and other reasons, there have been severe shortages of corn in both South and East Africa, so that it has been very difficult to feed even the native populations.

To make matters worse, there are numerous extra mouths to feed. Perhaps a quarter of a million war prisoners—mostly Italian—are now held in Africa. A few of these who have been taken to the remoter parts of the continent have been put to work, but most of them are simply unproductive mouths to be fed.

Refugees likewise aggravate the food shortage in Africa. There are large refugee colonies of Jews, Poles, Greeks, and others from Central and Southern Europe who are scattered from Egypt all the way to Kenya and Uganda. Some of these colonies include as many as 5,000 persons.

Still another factor is that a million Indians living in South Africa were formerly accustomed to subsist on rice, which was imported from areas in southeastern Asia now controlled by Japan. These people have now been forced to turn to other foods—especially to the "mealies" which are already seriously scarce.

## Incident in Munich

The latest news from Munich indicates that even a decade of totalitarian education has not been enough to regiment the minds of German youth completely. Last week a whirlwind Gestapo raid on Munich University resulted in the official hanging of three students charged with writing and distributing anti-Hitler literature.

The incident also emphasizes increasing class dissension within Germany. The three students who were executed were all members of socially prominent families. Previous to the Gestapo crackdown on the University, Propaganda Minister Josef Goebbels had conducted a minor campaign against the Reich's "idle rich" who, he claimed, were a drag on the Axis war effort.

The first crack in German national solidarity is most likely to come from

## National Youth Poll Results

The questions listed below were carried in the March 8th issue of the "Weekly News Review" and the "American Observer." Readers of these papers, approximately a million and a half in number, were asked to participate in a nation-wide poll of student opinion. Returns have been received from students all over the United States. The results, expressed in percentages, follow:

1. Should we have a national service act, authorizing the government to draft all men and women for war jobs? **Yes: 53 per cent. No: 42.6 per cent. Undecided: 4.4 per cent.**
2. Do you favor drafting into the Army workers who are habitually absent from their war jobs? **Yes: 89 per cent. No: 9 per cent. Undecided: 2 per cent.**
3. Are you in favor of a \$25,000 a year limit on a person's income? **Yes: 59.7 per cent. No: 33.3 per cent. Undecided: 7 per cent.**
4. Do you think that time and a half should be paid to workers for all hours over 40 a week? **Yes: 57.4 per cent. No: 38.9 per cent. Undecided: 3.7 per cent.**
5. Do you favor a compulsory savings law, requiring workers to invest a certain percentage of their earnings in war bonds? **Yes: 66.4 per cent. No: 30.6 per cent. Undecided: 3 per cent.**
6. Should pleasure driving be banned throughout the country to save rubber, gasoline, and manpower? **Yes: 52.4 per cent. No: 41.6 per cent. Undecided: 6 per cent.**
7. Should President Roosevelt appoint a war council to make decisions on all conflicting home-front policies? **Yes: 68 per cent. No: 21.5 per cent. Undecided: 10.5 per cent.**
8. Do you think we are doing as much as possible to win the war as quickly as possible? **Yes: 14 per cent. No: 81.8 per cent. Undecided: 4.2 per cent.**
9. On the whole, is Congress making the greatest possible contribution toward winning the war? **Yes: 21.3 per cent. No: 68.6 per cent. Undecided: 11.1 per cent.**

the old-line aristocrats. Dissatisfaction among the Prussian military set has long been recognized along with the rivalry between the regular army and the Gestapo. It is thought that the Munich incident may represent a Hitler attempt to bear down on Germany's upper classes before they can mobilize to overthrow his regime.

## Taste of Army Life

A novel plan was tried out recently to give war workers an idea of how their life compares to that of a soldier. On the suggestion of Walter

P. Reuther, vice-president of the United Automobile Workers and of the CIO, 300 UAW shop stewards from war plants in Michigan spent three days as buck privates in the Army. They wore Army uniforms, ate Army food, were subject to Army discipline, and in every way possible were treated exactly as soldiers.

Reuther himself joined his men in the three days of strenuous activity with the Eighty-third Division. Up at reveille, the union members started their first day running a gauntlet of belts swung by their barrack mates. Later on, as they engaged in bayonet practice, ran obstacle courses, and swung across water-filled gullies on swinging wire bridges and overhead cables, they readily admitted that soldiers have to be "plenty tough."

Since shop stewards are the men appointed by the union to discuss with employers all the grievances of the workers, they were the logical men to be chosen. Now when workers complain about their working conditions, the stewards will be able to compare their grievances with the problems and privations of the nation's millions of soldiers.

## News Items in Brief

Rationing in the United States is a picnic compared with what the people of Sweden are up against. To buy food and clothing for her family, the average Swedish housewife must handle 90 or more ration cards.

Four centers are now training war dogs for the nation's armed forces—Camp Rimini, Montana; Front Royal, Virginia; San Mateo, California; and Fort Robinson, Nebraska. They can handle the training of 1,000 dogs a month.

To Captain Joseph Hart of Pan American Airways belongs the distinction of being the first man to fly a commercial plane across the South Atlantic twice in 24 hours. He made the record not long ago, flying a clipper from Natal, Brazil, to a West African port and back to Natal in 23 hours and 59 minutes. Earlier this year he flew the Atlantic 12 times in 13 days and 15 hours.

It pays to see that ships are fully loaded before leaving port. A ship that lacks an inch of being down to her proper waterline—indicated on the outside of the hull—is about 50 tons short of her ideal load. If a convoy of 80 ships were thus poorly loaded, that would be 4,000 tons—an entire shipload that could as well have been carried.

Every time a minute ticked off in February, another 1,000 antiaircraft shells of the 20-mm. size were loaded for the U. S. Navy. Only two years ago, "no American company had ever made one of these shells," which are used to knock down dive bombers.

It is the daily task of two deep-sea divers to descend into the treacherous currents at the base of Grand Coulee Dam, and search for signs that erosion might be threatening the structure—the world's largest dam.



DENMARK, in its recent election, showed a strong tide of resistance against the Nazis. Above is a view of Copenhagen, the capital.

## The American Observer

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Are the coal miners in need of higher wages?

## Labor Raises Issues

(Concluded from page 1)

settlement have been controversies over wages. The workers were insisting that the cost of living was going up, and that their wages should rise too in order that their standards of living might not fall. In handling such cases, the National War Labor Board has, for several months, applied a rule known as the "Little Steel Formula." The name of this rule or formula grew out of a case in which a number of steel companies were involved. In the steel industry, there is one very large company—the United States Steel Corporation. It is commonly known as "Big Steel."

### "Little Steel Formula"

There are a number of companies which, though large, are smaller than United States Steel. Among these are Bethlehem Steel, Youngstown Sheet and Tube, Inland, and Republic. These companies, known as "Little Steel," were involved last summer in a dispute over wages with their men. The dispute was taken to the National War Labor Board, which decided the case last July.

The decision was that the men were entitled to an increase of 15 per cent in their wages. This increase was decided upon because it was figured that there had been a 15 per cent increase in the cost of living since January 1, 1941. The board decided to permit wage increases generally on this same basis, but not to go beyond that.

About that same time, it was also decided that prices throughout the nation should be closely controlled. The plan was to "freeze" both prices and wages. Prices were to be kept where they were at that time, and so were wages. It was thought that there would be little injustice in this since the workers, in most industries, had already received wage increases bringing their wages to about 15 per cent above the January 1, 1941, figure.

Since that time, the government has made a serious effort to keep prices down. We are all familiar with the price "ceilings" which have been set on many kinds of goods. The prices are fixed on almost all articles of food, and on many other things.

Despite all efforts which have been made to control prices, however, some prices have risen materially. In certain cases, the Office of Price Administration has raised the ceilings, permitting dealers to sell at higher figures. In other cases goods have been sold on "black markets"

and have commanded higher prices. The result is that though price control has worked fairly well, it has not accomplished its purpose of preventing rising prices. The cost of living is continuing to advance slowly but surely. It is now probably about 22 per cent above what it was on January 1, 1941.

This explains the widespread demand of workers for higher wages. The workers say that it is no longer right that they should receive merely 15 per cent above the wage level of 1941 when the cost of living has risen, not 15 per cent, but 22 per cent. Unions go before company officials and demand higher wages. The companies usually refuse, and the cases go to the War Labor Board.

Last month a test case was carried to the board. The American Federation of Labor asked that it scrap the "Little Steel Formula." It asked the board to agree, as a national policy, that wages should rise, not to a point 15 per cent above January 1, 1941, but that they rise enough to keep pace with the rising cost of living.

### Eight-to-Four

The War Labor Board, in its decision, refused to grant this request. It holds to the "Little Steel Formula." This decision was made by an eight-to-four vote—the four representatives of labor voting to change the formula, and representatives of employers and

the public voting to keep the formula.

This is the position taken by the majority of the board: When a request is made for higher wages, it is not enough to prove that the cost of living has advanced. It is not enough for the workers to show that, because of living costs, they cannot buy as much with their wages as they could buy before the war. In order to receive the higher wages, they must show that their purchasing power has fallen to the point where they can no longer maintain a decent standard of living.

The board did recognize the fact, however, that if the cost of living continues to go up, wages will have to increase. If, for example, to take an extreme case, the cost of living should double, it would, of course, be necessary for workers to receive higher wages. Otherwise, they could not maintain decent living conditions. But the board says that the attempt must be made to keep prices from going to anything like that level. It warns the Office of Price Administration and other government groups to use their power to keep prices down, or otherwise it will become necessary to permit wage increases.

### Position of Board

The War Labor Board says, in effect, that it is not responsible for what other government agencies may do. It cannot help it if Congress enacts legislation permitting farm prices to rise. It cannot help it if the Office of Price Administration raises the price ceilings on various lines of goods. But the board says that, so far as it is concerned, it does not want to be responsible for any of these price rises. If the other agencies of the government let prices go up too high, it will permit wage increases, but it is anxious not to start the upward movement.

Such is the position of the War Labor Board at present. It will try to hold wage increases down to the "Little Steel Formula." But what are the other government agencies going to do? That is a question about which many people are anxious. It is widely believed that Congress will pass legislation which will result in a rise in the cost of farm products—that is, the cost of food.

If food prices rise, the wholesalers and grocers who sell food products will seek permission from the OPA to raise their prices. This may increase the cost of living to the point where

the War Labor Board will be obliged to scrap the "Little Steel Formula" and increase wages. An increase of wages in turn will increase costs of factory production, and will force a rise in the price of all kinds of products. We will then keep in motion the "vicious circle" by which prices will continue to rise. The general impression in Washington is that this will happen, and that the cost of living will rise materially this year.

When prices get started upward, it is hard to tell what the cause is. For example, an increase of wages may be permitted as a result of the higher costs of living, but this increase in wages immediately becomes a cause of a still further rise in living costs. The same thing may be said of an increase in the prices of farm products. The farmers may ask for



John L. Lewis

H. H. KNIGHT

and obtain higher prices as a result of rising labor costs. But immediately the higher prices for farm goods become a cause of an increase in the costs of living, which in turn calls for higher wages and higher prices. And so the upward spiral goes on.

One way to prevent such an upward trend in prices is for all government agencies to adopt an iron-clad rule that there shall be no increase anywhere along the line.

It would be hard to do this because a number of pressure groups, each with great political influence, clamor for favors. Farm organizations flood Congress with demands for higher prices for their products. Labor unions call for higher wages. Businessmen are out for maximum profits, even though this calls for higher prices. But Great Britain, Canada, and Australia have, despite all such clamorings, fixed wages and prices, and have kept them fixed, which shows that it can be done.

Meanwhile, it is a mistake to place all the blame for rising prices upon any one class of the population—workers, farmers, manufacturers, or merchants. The chief responsibility rests upon the government, which has the power to establish hard and inflexible rules, and upon the public which calls upon the government for soft instead of unyielding measures. The whole nation then suffers.

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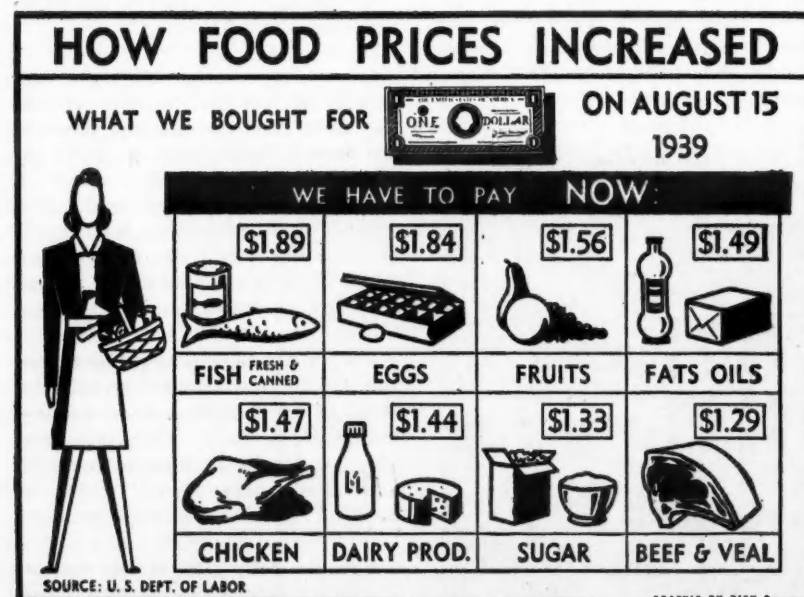
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The extent of the rise in various food products since the German invasion of Poland in 1939 is illustrated in the above graph

This chart shows how the price of food has risen since the German invasion of Poland in September, 1939.

N. Y. HERALD-TRIBUNE



# Churchill's Program

(Concluded from page 1)

Mr. Churchill believes in a world-wide organization of the nations of the earth after the war. Apparently, he would have the United Nations become the nucleus of this organization. He spoke of a "world institution embodying or representing the United Nations, and someday all the nations."

But apparently the Prime Minister has in mind something quite different from the League of Nations which was originally intended to include all nations. He believes that peace can best be preserved by subdivisions of the world-wide institution. He spoke of a Council of Europe and a Council of Asia—and presumably he would have a Council of America or a Council of the Western Hemisphere set up.

## Postwar Councils

Each of these Councils would deal with the problems which are exclusively a part of those regions. This was one of the weaknesses of the League of Nations. After it was organized, it dealt almost entirely with European problems and, in effect, was an institution to handle European political disputes. Mr. Churchill believes that this shortcoming of the League would be overcome by setting up the different councils. In this way, the Council would not have to concern itself with problems outside the region. Only inter-regional problems would be taken up by the world-wide organization, the continuing organization of the United Nations. This "world institution" would coordinate the work of the various Councils.

The Council of Europe would undertake to remove the causes of war in Europe, for Mr. Churchill realizes that for centuries Europe has been the tinder box of the world. "In

brace the whole of Europe, and that all the main branches of the European family must someday be partners in it.

Within the Council of Europe would be the various nations of the European continent, great and small. But Mr. Churchill believes that steps should be taken to prevent the smaller nations from becoming pawns in the hands of the larger ones. That is why he advocates the formation of regional groupings or confederations of several of the smaller states. In this way, the small states would have equal authority within the Council with the larger ones. Here is what the Prime Minister has in mind:

What is to happen to the large number of small nations whose rights and interests must be safeguarded? Here let me ask what would be thought of an army that consisted only of battalions and brigades and which never formed any of the large and high organizations like army corps? It would soon get mopped up.

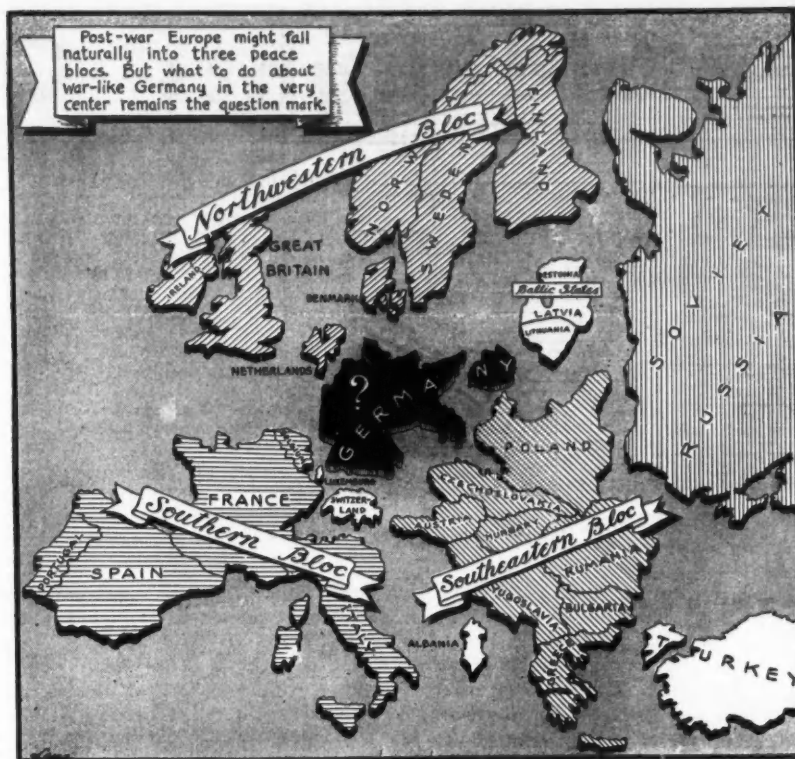
It would, therefore, seem to me at any rate worthy of patient study that, side by side with the great powers, there should be a number of groupings of states or confederations which would express themselves through their own chosen representatives, the whole making a council of great states and groups of states.

## Prewar Plans

Many attempts had been made before the present war to organize such federations of the small states as Mr. Churchill has in mind and a certain amount of progress had been made before war was unloosed. For example, a high degree of cooperation had been established among the Scandinavian countries and between them and Belgium and Holland. It has been suggested that one of the groupings might well consist of Denmark, Sweden, Norway, perhaps Finland, the Netherlands, and Belgium.

In the prewar days, certain progress had also been made toward bringing about greater cooperation among the Balkan states although here the task was rendered extremely difficult by the fact that the opposing great powers, particularly France and Germany, were constantly trying to line up the individual Balkan countries. Certainly a federation of the nations which lie in the Danubian Basin and in the Balkan peninsula—Austria, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Albania—would constitute a natural alignment of those nations.

If the smaller nations of Europe were organized into confederations they would no longer be so weak as to become the victims of the politics of the major powers. It is well to remember that Hitler's conquest of Europe was made possible because he was able to subdue in succession many of these small states. Even before the war, he had swallowed Austria. Then he was given a slice of Czechoslovakia at Munich and took the rest a few months later. Finally, he conquered Poland and then turned his attention to northern and western Europe. He sent his armies into Denmark and Norway and then launched his attack upon Belgium and the Netherlands. These states were unable to



This map suggests some of the natural divisions of Europe, and it points to the central problem of how Germany can be made to fit into plans for a peaceful and secure Europe in the future.

protect themselves because each acted independently and they were not organized for cooperation to withstand aggression.

The conference which was held in New York last week discussed such matters as regional federations of the kind proposed by Mr. Churchill. The prime-mover in the Pan-European conference is Count Richard N. Coudenhove-Kalergi, formerly of Austria but now in this country seeking to lay the foundations for a peaceful Europe. Although his name is not well known in America, Coudenhove-Kalergi has long been a leader in Europe to promote unity among the various nations. He has advocated a United States of Europe, modeled along the lines of the United States and the Swiss governments.

## Britain and Russia

Whether Great Britain or Russia would become members of Mr. Churchill's Council of Europe is a matter which will have to be decided. It has been argued by many that a United States of Europe, or a Council of Europe, could be established without either England or Russia as members. Of course, the entire venture would fail miserably without the support of both countries and without the support of the United States.

That is the reason why Prime Minister Churchill placed such great stress upon the need for continued cooperation and full agreement among the three powers. He urged immediate conferences among the three powers to consider the problems of postwar organization. "We must hope and pray that the unity of the three leading victorious powers will be worthy of their supreme responsibility and that they will think not only of their own welfare but of the welfare and future of all," he said.

One of the important tasks ahead will be to achieve this unity among the three powers if the foundations of permanent peace are to be established in Europe. It may be taken for granted that the United States will support Mr. Churchill's idea of federations, a Council of Europe, a Council of Asia, and an overall world-wide organization of the United Nations.

The position of Russia is less clear. Since the outbreak of war, negotiations have been made by several of the governments-in-exile for the formation of regional blocs or federations. In particular, the heads of the Polish and Czechoslovakian government in London have discussed the idea of such a federation in eastern Europe. Russia has been reputedly cool to the idea, lest these federations be used against her at some future time. Thus the position of Russia is all important in whatever plans are made for the future organization of peace in Europe.

Nor can any plans for postwar Europe be made without taking into account the role of Germany. Located in the very center and heart of the continent, she must be taken into account. The United Nations leaders have spoken of disarming Germany and keeping her disarmed. But would a disarmed and defeated Germany be willing to cooperate in a federated Europe? Would she not have to be treated as an equal? These are questions which must be answered before the plans for peace can be made in more definite form.

More than anything else, the Churchill address has stimulated discussion on some of the most basic of all problems confronting the world. The peoples of the world are coming to realize that if World War III is to be prevented peace must be organized. To restore all the old boundaries and to recreate all the old political arrangements which existed before the war will merely plant the seeds for a future explosion. To prevent future wars will be a gigantic task. The obstacles will be great, but they are not insuperable.

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"A platform is no good without steps."

BISHOP IN ST. LOUIS STAR-TIMES

Europe lie most of the causes which have led to these two world wars," he said. Then, he went on to outline some of the functions of the Council of Europe:

We must try to make the Council of Europe, or whatever it may be called, into a really effective league, with all strongest forces concerned woven into its texture, with a high court to adjust disputes and with forces, national or international or both, held ready to enforce these decisions and to prevent renewed aggression and preparation of future wars.

Anyone can see that this council, when created, must eventually em-



# Sidelights On The News



REYNOLDS METALS

We are moving into the "Age of Plastics"

## Progress in Plastics

There was a day when plastics were useful primarily as substitute materials, and were found most often in cheap gadgets. Usually they were inferior to the wood and metal which they replaced.

Under the stimulus of war needs, however, plastics have come into their own. They can be made tougher, stronger, lighter, more resistant to corrosion, or with other characteristics which make them better for many jobs than substances formerly used. So far civilians have had little opportunity to see these new plastics in use, since their output is largely confined to a multitude of war materials.

Time magazine recently has pointed to many of the uses to which these new plastics will be placed in the postwar world:

For use in meters, Mellon Institute has developed two plastics: a leather-like material which is expected to stand up for 25 years without stretching even if flexed 900 times an hour; a metal-like material which can stand spinning in a stream of hot or cold water for the same length of time without swelling, shrinking, or appreciable wear.

Thermo-Cast is a plastic that acts like a metal; it may be melted and cast without pressure. Thermo-Cast is tough enough, although one-fifth the weight of steel, to stand up in dies used to shape aluminum sheets.

Lucite plastic bearings in a giant citrus-juice extractor are lubricated by the juice they squeeze, are not affected by the sterilizing steam and the fruit acids, which wear down bronze.

Pilots and gunners were severely sunburned in early plastic airplane enclosures; new plastics screen out the ultraviolet rays which are intense at high, clear altitudes.

Newest use of the oldest plastic (cellulose nitrate) is for storage-battery housings. Designed for portable searchlights on war duty, the new batteries point toward postwar automobile batteries that are lighter, tougher, and so transparent that the level of the liquid may be checked at a glance.

## Air Transport Command

Just the other day the papers carried a story about a flier who made a round trip flight from Brazil across the Atlantic to Africa and back, carrying a heavy load of war materials, in just 23 hours and 59 minutes. For the first time in history the Atlantic had been spanned twice within a 24-hour period. Major William N. Vickers, Jr., writing in *This Week* tells how the Air Transport Command is making records of this sort almost daily:

One day Washington got a radiogram from General MacArthur, in Australia, asking for several thousand special devices for his planes. The standard equipment he had would not work well, and he wanted replacements—fast.

As you know, it's 28 days by freighter

from San Francisco to Australia. But in exactly two days, 14 hours after General MacArthur sent his radio message, an Air Transport Command plane landed at his headquarters with 5,000 pounds of these devices. "Direct from manufacturer to consumer," you might say.

Up in Alaska a 24-bed hospital was burned to the ground. The Air Transport Command flew in a brand new hospital, complete from roof to thermometers, in 36 hours.

In Libya the first fighting planes to arrive soon encountered trouble from sand sifting into one part of the mechanism. A factory expert was flown in from the States—he inspected the damage, sketched a "sand shield" suitable for the part. And in two weeks from the first hurry call 2,000 of these accessories (which nobody had ever heard of before) were in Libya from a factory in the Middle West.

This, in a nutshell, is the work of the ATC: the lusty infant of the U.S. Army Air Forces, which, in 10 months, grew from a personnel of three to a crack flying organization larger than all of the world's airlines at the start of the war. Today, aside from ferrying thousands of battle planes monthly to every nook and cranny of the globe, we carry everything you could name in the line of war goods from blood plasma and sulfa drugs to ammunition and howitzers. And on our return flights we bring back either a score of ferry pilots or tons of critical materials like quinine, tin, mica, chrome.

## Save Every Drop

The speaker is United States Oil Administrator Harold L. Ickes; the subject, conservation of oil and gasoline:

The term "east coast" doesn't mean Jersey City or Manhattan or Boston or Philadelphia or Washington. The "east coast" is Dakar and Casablanca and a hidden fuel dump somewhere south of Bizerte. It is every bit of land and water between their doorstep and Hitler's hide-out at Berchtesgaden.

Every home owner who cannot convert from fuel oil to coal will continue—we hope—to get a basic fuel oil ration that will suffice for healthy if not customarily convenient living. Every necessary motor vehicle—we hope—will be able to travel its necessary mileage.

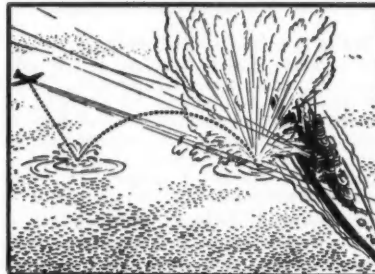
It must be apparent to all that every drop of fuel oil that goes needlessly through an oil burner—industrial, commercial, or domestic—every drop that could be saved by the conversion of that equipment to the use of coal, is a drop of oil that might have saved a doughboy's life or knocked a second off the timetable of the certain but distant victory for our arms.

Every gallon of gasoline that is wasted by an extra mile on a salesman's schedule, on a casual shopping trip, bridge luncheon, or "I owe it to myself" vacation jaunt—every gallon of that gasoline deprives some more essential petroleum products of needed

transportation space and equipment. Conceivably it blocks the on-time shipment of an extra gallon of aviation gasoline that might otherwise have flown a fighter plane and its wounded pilot back to base.

## Skip Bombing

Much of the credit for our smashing victory in the Bismarck Sea battle is due to a new technique known as "skip-bombing," which was used by B-25 North American Mitchell bombers because there weren't enough Flying Fortresses to carry



WASHINGTON POST

The technique of skip bombing

out the usual kind of high-altitude "pattern bombing." John G. Norris describes this new kind of "skip-bombing" in the *Washington Post*:

The fast twin-engined craft came in on the Japanese vessels at mast-level, attacking from broadside. Approaching at high speed broadside, they dropped their bombs just short of the target. Such was their momentum that the 500-pounders did not fall vertically but flew into the water at a sharp angle.

The big bombs then performed like a stone thrown by a boy on the water. They skipped off the surface of the waves into the air and either hit the side of the ship or fell just short into the water. Delayed-action fuses exploded them under the surface.

What gives such technique its deadly effect is that the bombs go off below the water line—a vulnerable spot. Underwater explosions, moreover, build up much greater pressure than those in the open air and have considerably more destructive effect.

Furthermore, the silhouette of a ship provides a much better target than the deck from above. Bombardiers can either hit the side of the ship on the fly, or "skip" their bombs off the water and still score a decisive hit.

## As Others See Us

Just how do the peoples of Europe and Asia picture Uncle Sam? What is their idea of a typical American? In an article in the *New York Times* magazine, D. W. Brogan says that the U.S.A. the Europeans picture is a movie country. From the thousands of exported Hollywood films, the

people of the continent have formed their judgment of America:

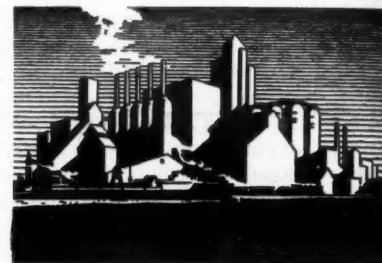
It is a link between England and America that in both countries nine people out of ten if asked what Christian name they associated with Russell would reply at once Rosalind for one who would say Bertrand. The sight of an English audience laughing uproariously at a Bob Hope film—even at its most American when the audience has missed the joke—is another proof of the fundamental link of the movies.

But in other parts of the world, a new source of knowledge about America has been introduced—American boys in uniform. Pearl Buck tells what happened in India when a group of soldiers hailed a ricksha driver:

They pushed him into his ricksha and he had to sit down on that cotton-covered cushion he tries to keep clean for passengers, and before he knew it the merry gang was pulling him along the street, laughing and yelling. People stared for a minute and then began to laugh, and then he began to laugh, and perhaps for the first time realized that here are white men with whom he can laugh and of whom he need not be afraid because they don't want to be his masters. And when it was all over, they paid him his regular fare as if he had pulled them, and for him, forever after, Americans are friendly people.

## Cartel Menace

In general, cartels are merely large-scale monopolies under another



Cartels control many industries

name. As Thurman Arnold, former chief trust-buster of the Department of Justice, puts it in *The American Mercury*:

The shortest way of defining a cartel is to describe it as a small ring of private individuals who get substantial control over the production and distribution of some basic material or some necessity of life.

Mr. Arnold argues that when these economic dictators operate internationally as many now do, they are in a position to set the standard of living for millions of people. And of course, they determine it in the way which will keep their profits highest.

When business operates on a competitive basis, Mr. Arnold continues, new discoveries of technical shortcuts and better products are constantly bringing the consumer more of the comforts of life at lower cost. The fact that firms making the same type of commodity are rivals means that quality must increase and prices go down to attract the buying public. Under the cartel system, however, there is no competition. Prices stay as high as possible, and if a new discovery means that the cartel will have to invest in new machinery or incur any other expense, the patent is bought and the discovery simply suppressed.

Mr. Arnold believes that unless cartels are controlled, they will menace the security of the postwar world.



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

Air transport grows rapidly in answer to the demand for speed.